

YOUTH COMMISSION SEEKING SUBMISSIONS FOR LEAD360 CHALLENGE

(Greenville SC) The City of Greenville's Youth Commission is joining forces with one of America's largest youth-based public service challenges. The *Lead360 Challenge* connects young Americans and communities to the prestige and distinction of the Jefferson Awards, with its 42-year history of recognizing excellence in public service, and empowers and educates youth on their ability to effect change: individually, collectively, locally and nationally. The Lead360 Challenge is designed to recognize the great work kids do and inspire others to put their ideas into action. Last year, 900,000 young Americans competed in the challenge, with 3,674 projects.

The Youth Commission is encouraging individuals ages 5 -25, as well as schools, clubs and other youth organizations that are doing great things in the Greenville community, to submit their "big ideas" and community projects for a chance to be recognized locally and to compete nationally. To participate, individuals and groups simply upload their projects, including pictures and videos, to the Lead360 web site at https://lead360.jeffersonawards.org/. Project categories include Education, Environment, Community, Hunger, Elder, Youth, Health, Animal and Peace. The deadline to enter a project is Friday, April 25 at 11:59 p.m.

The Youth Commission will select the three most outstanding projects from all of the local submissions, and the winners will be recognized at the May 12 City Council meeting. The Youth Commission has also partnered with the Greenville Drive, who will recognize the winners at a Drive game. The three local winners will then go on to compete nationally. Ultimately, five national finalists will travel to Washington, DC for the Jefferson Awards National Ceremony in June.

About the Greenville Youth Commission:

The Greenville Youth Commission is an official commission of the City of Greenville and is comprised of high school and college students (up to age 21). The purpose of the commission is to advise City Council, the City Manager and other City staff to ensure that Greenville youth are involved in the City's comprehensive planning, to increase communication between the city's

adults and youth and to ensure that the youth in the community are an integral part of government decision making.

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